

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 06406 071612Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4975

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, GH, XA
SUBJ: MEETING WITH SECRETARY GENERAL OF ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN TRADE UNION UNITY (OATUU)

1. ON AUGUST 5, EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR PAID COURTESY
CALL ON JAMES DENNIS AKUMU, SECGEN OF OATUU. ALTHOUGH
BUSILY ENGAGED IN PREPARING FOR TRIP TO UNITED STATES
NEXT DAY, AKUMU TOOK CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME TO BRIEF
POLOFF ON ACTIVITIES OF OATUU AND ITS ROLE IN AFRICAN
LABOR MOVEMENTS. AKUMU ALSO TOOK THAT OPPORTUNITY TO
DISCUSS RETURN OF U.S. TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO). SPECIFICALLY, HE NOTED THAT:
(1) U.S. SHOULD BEGIN TO GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT AS TO WHEN
IT MIGHT RETURN TO THE ILO; (2) THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER
WHICH THE U.S. WOULD CONSIDER RETURNING SHOULD PERHAPS BE
REEVALUATED; AND (3) THERE ARE ELEMENTS IN ILO WHICH MIGHT
BEGIN TO OPPOSE THE RETURN OF THE U.S. IF WE WAIT TOO LONG.

2. ALTHOUGH POLOFF WAS CERTAIN OF AKUMU'S AWARENESS OF FORCES
IN THE U.S. THAT ARE KEY TO CONSIDERATION OF RETURNING
TO ILO, POLOFF PROVIDED BRIEFING ON PRESENT CLIMATE
INCLUDING VIEWS OF CONGRESS AND US LABOR. SINCE AKUMU
IS PROCEEDING TO U.S. AND APPARENTLY SCHEDULED TO MEET
WITH MEANY AND OTHERS IN US LABOR IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT
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PAGE 02 ACCRA 06406 071612Z

HE MIGHT WISH TO MAKE HIS VIEWS KNOWN TO THAT AUDIENCE.
HE STATED THAT HE INTENDED TO DO THAT.

3. AT END OF MEETING AKUMU ASKED THAT GOOD RELATIONS
ALREADY EXPERIENCED WITH EMBASSY BE CONTINUED WITH FREE
FLOW OF INFORMATION AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS.
HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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